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GENERAL PLAN

MADERA COUNTY

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Report prepared by the Madera County Planning Department

1975

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AREA

The county is located in the center of the State of California and is one of seven counties which comprise the San Joaquin Valley. There are 2,444 square miles, 11,377,410 acres, within the borders. It is bounded on the north and west by Fresno County, on the north by Merced and Butte Counties, and on the south by the State of Madera County. It is about 100 miles long in a north-south direction and approximately 75 miles wide.

PHYSICAL FEATURES

There are three distinct physical features within the county. These are the valley, the foothills to the north and east, and the mountains to the south. The valley is a broad, flat area which is approximately 100 miles long and 75 miles wide. The foothills are a series of low, rolling hills which are approximately 10 miles long and 10 miles wide. The mountains are a series of high, rugged peaks which are approximately 10 miles long and 10 miles wide.

ECONOMY

The economy is primarily one of agriculture and agribusiness. The major crops are wheat, corn, and alfalfa. The major livestock are cattle, horses, and sheep. The major industries are food processing, textile manufacturing, and electronics. The major services are retail trade, health care, and education.

CLIMATE

Madera County's mild, temperate climate, favorable to agriculture, and its abundant water resources are primary factors in its physical environment. The county is located in the center of the State of California, and its climate is a blend of the coastal and inland climates. The average annual precipitation is 20 inches, and the average annual temperature is 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

Source: State Department of Finance - Statistical Summary, 1960-1961

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Background Information

POPULATION

Madera County has an estimated population of 46,050* with 17,950 people residing in the incorporated area of the City of Madera and 4,610 people in the City of Chowchilla. The estimated 1990 population of Madera County is 58,400.

AREA

The County is located in the center of the State of California and is one of eight counties which lie within the San Joaquin Valley. There are 2,144 square miles (1,377,916 acres) within its borders. It is bounded on the south and west by Fresno County, on the north by Merced and Mariposa Counties, and by Mono County on the east. Madera County is about 96 miles long in a northeast-southwest direction and approximately 23 miles wide.

PHYSICAL FEATURES

There are three distinct physical regions within the County. These are: the valley, the foothills (or dissected uplands), and the mountains or Sierra Nevada. Elevations range from approximately 110 feet above sea level in the westernmost area to an elevation of 13,159 feet at the peak of Mount Ritter in the eastern Sierra Nevadas.

ECONOMY

The economy is primarily one of agriculture and agriculture-related industries and services. Irrigated cotton and grapes are the key income producers, while cattle and dry-farmed grain occupy the foothills. The mountainous region has an active lumbering and mineral industry with recreation accounting for the largest single economic activity in that region.

CLIMATE

Madera County's soil, water, mineral, vegetative, wildlife, and scenic resource capabilities are primarily based on its physical structure; that is, the slopes and shapes of its surface, its surface drainage, and the nature of its underlying geologic materials. Of equal importance is the climate which interacts with each of the other three.

*Source: State Department of Finance - Estimate January 1, 1975

Precipitation increases with elevation through the western two thirds of the County with annual totals averaging less than 8 inches in the southern quarter and increasing to over 33 inches at the North Fork Ranger Station (elevation 2665). In general, the western third of the county averages less than 16 inches of rainfall per year, providing a dry, semi-arid climate at low elevations. Higher elevations (4,000 to 10,000 feet) in the eastern third of the county report in excess of 40 inches of precipitation yearly.

Like most other areas of California, precipitation is concentrated in the winter, nearly 85% of the total being received in the 6-month period from October through March. In the mountains, a large portion of the winter's precipitation falls as snow. Normally, this provides a source of streamflow well into the summer.

Between the valley and the foothills on the one hand and the middle and high mountains on the other, a wide range of temperatures exist within the county. The most important factor determining the several measures of average temperature is elevation.

The July mean daily maximum temperature averages in the upper 90's over most of the western one half of the county and above 100 in two narrow strips, one along the far west side and the other on the east, near the Sierra, extending for a distance up the San Joaquin River Canyon and lesser streams. Extreme readings of 110 degrees or higher have been recorded at nearly all points below 2,600 feet.

Elevations above 5,000 feet, particularly in the northeastern area of the county, have cooler summer temperatures. The south entrance of Yosemite National Park, 2 miles northwest of the County line, shows a July mean maximum of 84.8 degrees but even here, a high of 102 degrees has been recorded.

Snowfall at low elevations is very light, about one inch at elevations of 1,000 feet, increasing to about 250 inches or more annually above 8,000 feet. At intermediate levels where snow settles in mountains at intervals during the winter, the accumulation on the ground is ordinarily not great. At higher elevations, however, snow remains throughout the winter; accumulations of 70 or 80 inches and more have been reported. Limits of heavy snowfall can be placed around 9,000 feet. That area above 9,000 feet is also relatively dry because of the heavy extraction of moisture from the air at low elevations; however, snow remains at these high elevations much later in the year because of the longer duration of cold weather which retards melting. It is not uncommon to see the snow disappearing in the higher elevations as late as July or August and to have it return in October. Typically, it is early May before the last snow melts at the 7,000 foot level, whereas in the City of Madera on the valley floor, it is a rare occurrence to have snow.

Abundant sunshine which is a requirement for many types of outdoor recreation is characteristic of this area, the sun normally being visible for more than 95% of the time between sunrise and sunset during the summer months. The winter months show a value of about 50% of possible sunshine. During the rainy period of winter, there are likely to be a number of days of foggy weather, sometimes clearing before noon but often persisting for several days without break. Considerably more sunshine is experienced just above the fog or low clouds that frequently envelop the valley during the winter. Cumulus clouds reduce the summer figure in the mountains, though sunshine is likely for a good part of the day, even when such clouds are present.

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Because of its central location, varied topography, and climate, Madera County offers a number of diverse outdoor recreation opportunities to its residents as well as to residents from throughout the state and nation. It can be safely stated that more people enter the county from other areas for recreational activities than local residents who leave the county in search of recreational activities elsewhere.

To this point, the county government has not been extremely active in acquiring land or otherwise providing outdoor recreational opportunities for its residents. This is due, at least partially, to the fact that approximately one quarter of the county is covered by National Forest lands which will remain essentially as open space land, affording numerous outdoor recreational opportunities. Approximately 35% of the land area of the county is under some kind of public ownership. The overwhelming majority of publicly-owned lands lie in the mountain area of the county, while the foothill and valley areas are almost entirely under private ownership.

WILDLIFE

One of the most valuable, yet oftentimes least considered natural resources of the county is its native and exotic wildlife. The wildlife is one of the main attractions to the county for hunters, fishermen, and naturalists.

Population growth is bringing about a rising interest in our forests and open space, along with an increasing demand for timber, water, and other natural resources, all of which pose a serious threat to wildlife. Fortunately, unlike minerals, wildlife is a renewable resource and subject to management by man. The basic needs of wildlife, such as food, water, adequate cover, and protection from decimating factors, can be controlled to a large degree through proper management of the land they live on.

Fortunately for wildlife, one of the major landowners of Madera County is the U.S. Government, represented by the Forest Service, which provides a carefully-managed program of multiple use within the forests. That the management of our natural forests on a continual production basis since the early years of the century has materially aided wildlife is indicated by the fact that one third of all the game animals in the country and a myriad of smaller animals and birds claim the national forests as their home. The main objectives of the Forest Service with regard to wildlife management are to build up the habitat and to increase wildlife populations in some areas and to limit wildlife populations in proportion to the land's productive capacity.

A considerable portion of the wildlife habitat in the county is situated on private land where effective incentives for adopting practices beneficial to wildlife are often lacking. Although the state is responsible for the protection and restoration of wildlife, it depends essentially on private landowners to provide the habitat and to produce the wildlife. The habitat that will carry the animals through the entire year is needed. This will vary with each species according to their food preferences and their cover needs. If these requirements are not provided, the animals cannot respond to the protection given to them by hunting seasons, bag limits, and other laws designed to perpetuate the breeding stock. The land management practices are therefore of direct importance to the animals. What is done to the land and its vegetation determines how much wildlife can be produced and maintained.

What Is Recreation ?

Recreation is different things to different people but generally it is a way of accommodating leisure time. The way people use this time can shape their lives and society as much as their work. The various types of emotional and intellectual experiences which are a part of the recreational-type experience should be included in the assessment of recreation needs.

The emotional stresses and strains of modern day life add to the importance of recreational opportunities which afford one a maximum amount of freedom of choice.

Vacation days and other fringe benefits are often a prime consideration when seeking employment. Recreation also serves as a way of bringing divergent groups together on a common ground because of the informal atmosphere of most recreational experiences.

Leisure Time

Over the past years, leisure time has not increased in proportion to spendable real income per capita. For the 1900 to 1950 period, leisure time per capita increased about 27% while real income per capita rose about 150%. For the 1950 to 2000 time frame, the contrast may be even sharper. A 12% rise in leisure time is expected as opposed to an expected rise in income of at least 150%.

This means that more people will be under increasing inducement to spend part of their larger income on making the most of their leisure time. This has been increasingly noticeable over the last 10 to 20 years by the growing numbers of recreation vehicles of all types. For example, there has been about a 400% increase in the number of motorcycles in California over the past 6 or 7 years.¹

Although it may seem hard to believe, figures indicate that the relationship of personal income to recreation expenditure is relatively constant over all income and socio-economic groups. There is some variation but it is hardly ever less than 4% and seldom greater than 7%.²

Individuals choose their recreation activities based on the opportunities available. Choices are also influenced by age and sex. Local community recreation activities should consist of opportunities for informal play or organized games. One should also take into consideration the area needs of land and water when choosing recreational sites. Outdoor recreation may be competing with other types of land use in a given area. For example, forestry, agriculture, homesites, irrigation, and power production all utilize lands that could be used for recreational purposes and vice-versa.

Some of the benefits of providing recreational opportunities are the reduction of delinquency through organized use of free time and the alleviation of social ills and mental illness. A Fresno study indicates that the rate of juvenile crime increased directly in proportion to how far away from local public recreation areas juveniles lived. The distance of six blocks was the definite break point where the rise in delinquency began to sharpen. Another important function of recreation is the preservation and conservation of important aspects of the natural or cultural heritage as well as the preservation of the natural wonders and other unique natural amenities. Often times the shortage of recreational facilities is due not so much to the quality of the land available, but rather

1. Clawson, Marion, and Jack L. Knetsch, *Economics of Outdoor Recreation*, Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore, Maryland, 1966.

2. Ibid

in providing access to suitable recreational lands.

Some of the types of recreational areas are listed below:¹

1. Natural environment areas
2. Natural areas
3. Primitive areas
4. Historic and cultural sites
5. Outdoor sports, organized recreation
6. Unorganized recreation, picnic facilities, etc.

Recreation may be divided into two basic types: 1) Resource based and 2) Demand based. Resource based recreation involves areas where the primary attraction is scenery, colorful history, wilderness, natural, ecological, and scientific qualities, or recreation requiring special resources such as snow, water, or wildlife. As with most kinds of recreation, it is desirable to have this type as close as possible to the user, but the distance from the user is less a factor than the intrinsic quality of the area. When natural features are of high quality, such as Yosemite National Park, people will travel great distances to visit these areas. Some areas which provide these qualities may be of interest primarily to local people but they can also provide national and state interest. It is accepted that government should preserve typical examples of original landscape and history.

Some state and federal agencies have attempted to identify such resource-based areas. Travel and the study of natural scenic and historic areas are a fast-growing segment of recreational activities. In deciding its role in providing this type of recreation, the county must first determine the role of the state and federal governments. A strong responsibility would have to be assumed by the county in supplying resource-based recreation areas that are of less than state or national interest and which would be used primarily by local groups and residents from within the county. Where resources are of such quality as to be of interest to a broader areas, such as a region, the counties involved or the state or federal agencies should share the responsibility.

It is impossible to completely separate resource and demand recreation and frequently distance and intrinsic qualities both are considered by the user. Generally, responsibilities for demand-based recreation is divided by travel time as follows:

1. Neighborhood recreation is normally within 1/2 mile or walking distance of home.

1. California Committee for Planning for Recreation, Park Areas and Facilities, *Guide for Planning Recreation Parks in California*, State of California Recreation Commission, 722 Capitol Avenue, Room 3076, Sacramento, California, 1956.

2. Community recreation is normally within 2 miles.
3. Regional recreation is within approximately one hour's drive (40 to 60 miles) from home.
4. Overnight or weekend recreation is within one half day's travel or 125 miles.
5. Vacations can be at a distance of 250 miles or more.

Neighborhood and community recreation areas are normally urban and municipally oriented. Regional recreation is generally more rural in character and frequently involves other major developments. With few exceptions in California, areas providing this type of recreation attract users from beyond their county boundaries.

Some of the determinants of future recreational needs will be:

1. Life style of the potential users.
2. The quality of the experience desired.
3. Physical factors, such as the length of the season and the resource capacity.
4. Availability of access (including transportation, modes, and costs).

It should be noted that 70% of the demand for outdoor recreation occurs within one hour's travel time of the participant's home¹.

Local recreation areas are often the most difficult areas to acquire and maintain because they are located within or near developed areas where land and maintenance costs are high. In spite of these difficulties, these lands are where the largest efforts should be concentrated.

Long-range plans must be made to acquire land relatively early in relation to need, especially for user-oriented areas where location is an important factor. When considering resource-based areas, one must realize that if unique areas are not set aside while available, there may be no substitute later.

1. Clawson, Marion, and Jack L. Knetsch, *Economics of Outdoor Recreation*, Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore, Maryland, 1966.

Standards For Recreation

A standard of 10 acres of recreational park facilities per 1,000 population has been established as a baseline figure.¹ Neighborhood play fields of 10 to 15 acres should be located at a distance of not more than 1/4 mile in urban areas. These can be developed jointly with school properties wherever possible. Community parks of 15 to 50 acres should account for 1/2 of a community's recreational area in communities of up to 35,000 people. Regional parks of 100 to 500 acres should be designed to serve areas of 250,000 population or more.

Within Madera County, large state and federal land holdings to this point have been able to pretty much offset the need for regional parks. There is, however, a deficiency in local parks within the county and in the state in general. There are presently about 75,000 acres of local parklands in California, or less than 4 acres per 1,000 people. Most of this state-wide deficiency is in the Southern California area.

Local community parks and recreation areas should emphasize the type of activities that will provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities for a broad range of age, income, and ethnic groups.

Even large city parks should take into consideration those who do not have private transportation, such as the young, the old, and the poor, for it is these people who need most to have recreational facilities located near their homes.

The development of multi-purpose recreation areas to meet the needs of the population is of primary importance to the local government. The continued expansion of the multiple use concept of Madera County's agricultural and forestry areas is recommended in this Plan. The Plan also proposes that private land owners be encouraged to develop privately sponsored and controlled recreational activities on open lands used for agricultural purposes.

1. California Committee for Planning for Recreation, Park Areas and Facilities, *Guide for Planning Recreation Parks in California*, State of California Recreation Commission, 722 Capitol Avenue, Room 3076, Sacramento, California, 1956.

TABLE 1

SUGGESTED RECREATIONAL SYSTEM COMPONENTS

Type	Size (Acres)	Area/1000 pop. (Acres)	Service area	Location	Usual Facilities
Playlot	1	special facility	one block of project	high density	paved areas, sitting areas, private super- vision
Playground	6	1-2/1000	1/2-1 sq. mile (elementary school service area)	near elementary school	games (team), play equip- ment, multiple use paved areas, not much parking.
Playfield	15-25	1-2/1000	1 mile or 4-5 neighborhoods (high school service area)	near center at intersection of major or second- ary thoroughfares	swim pool, community athletics, much parking
Large Park	100	5/1000	3 miles good auto access	1/50-100,000 urban people	active athletic fields 1/2 natural areas, water sports, passive areas, much parking
Parkways Ornamental areas	--	20/1000	no specific	where aesthetic treatment desir- able	Largely scenic, picnic- ing, also golf courses, zoos, etc.
Reservations (preserves)	Several hundred to 1000	10/1000	entire area	fringe of development	rustic, camping, hiking, boating, non-intensive use
Regional recreation areas	several thousand	--	region	1-3 hours of urban center	fishing, boating, picnic- ing, hunting, camping, education, scientific study, etc.

TABLE II

NEIGHBORHOOD RECREATION CENTER:

SPACE STANDARDS*

Facilities	Center adjoining Elementary School (area in acres)	Separate Center (area in acres)
1 Playlot and mothers' area	.25	.25
2 Play area for elementary school-age children	.35	.35
3 Nature and science hobby area	.30	.30
4 Paved area for court games	.50	1.00
5 Field for sports	*	6.00
6 Night lighting (need for acreage depends on design)	--	.25
7 Instructional swimming pool	.20	--
8 Family picnic and barbecue area	1.50	1.50
9 Parklike area for free play	.50	1.00
10 Neighborhood center building	*	.35
11 Quiet area	.25	.25
12 Older people		
Turfed area	.50	.50
Paved area	.10	.10
Building space	.10	.10
13 Off-street parking	.40	.60
14 Landscaping: 30 percent of site in transitional areas and perimeter buffer	1.49	3.77
 TOTAL	 6.44	 16.32

*Provided by elementary school.

SOURCE: California Outdoor Recreation Resources Plan, Department of Parks & Recreation, 1974

TABLE III

COMMUNITY RECREATION PARK:

SPACE STANDARDS¹

Facilities	Recreation Park Adjoining Junior or Senior High School (area in acres)	Separate Recreation Park (area in acres)
A Playlot and mothers' area	.25	.25
B Play area for elementary school-age children	.35	.35
C Field for sports	1.00	7.00
D Night lighting (need for acreage depends on design)	--	.25
E Paved area for court games	1.35	2.00
F Concrete slab for skating and dancing	.15	.15
G Family and group picnic and barbecue area	3.00	3.00
H Parklike area for free play	2.00	4.00
I Area for special events	1.00	1.00
J Community center building	.75	1.00
K Regulation swimming pool	.50	1.00
L Natural area	2.50	2.50
M Older people's center		
Turfed area	2.00	2.00
Paved area	.10	.10
Building space	.10	.10
N Off-street parking	1.00	1.50
O Landscaping: 25 percent of site in transitional areas and perimeter buffer	4.01	6.55
TOTAL	20.06	32.75

1. *Guide for Planning Recreation Parks in California*, California Recreation Commission. 1956

SOURCE: California Outdoor Recreation Resources Plan, Department of Parks and Recreation, 1974

TABLE IV

12

CITY-WIDE RECREATION FACILITIES:
SPACE STANDARDS

Suggested space standards - service population of 100,000

Facilities	Total Acreage Including Parking	Parking provided**	
		Number of Automobiles	Acreage Required
CULTURAL CENTER (adjoining a major edu- cational institution when practical)			
A Drama and music center (auditorium seat- ing 1,000; intimate hall for chamber music)*	10	300	2.1
B Outdoor theatre*	20	600	4.2
C Junior museum (science, crafts, art center)*	15	30	.2
D Museum; art center with art gallery and studios for painting, sculpture, and crafts; floral display hall*	15	300	2.1
E Landscaping: 25 percent of total acreage of items starred	15	--	--
	75	1,230	8.6
RECREATION PARK			
F Open meadow area	30	--	--
G Natural areas, trails, lake or water course	45	150	1.0
H Picnic and barbecue areas (family and group)	30	300	2.1
I Day and weekend camping (family and group)	30	300	2.1
J Golf courses (one 18-hole course = 160 acres) Four courses provided on follow- ing basis: one 18-hole course for 20,000 population, plus one 18-hole course for each 30,000 thereafter	640	1,600	11.2
K Children's wonderland (combined with children's zoo)*	5	100	.7
L Play area for preschool children and apparatus section (four of each, widely separated)*	3	--	--
M Adaptable space for circus, carnivals, outdoor conventions	20	600	4.2
N Corporation yard	10	--	--
O Landscaping: 25 percent of total acreage of items starred	70	--	--
	883	3,050	21.3

SPORTS CENTER

P Stadium, swimming pool, athletic fields, courts	50	1,300	9.0
---	----	-------	-----

CIVIC CENTER

Administrative offices, auditorium and exhibition hall	30	600	4.2
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PLAZAS AND SQUARES

20 percent of commercial district

GREENBELTS

Strip parks and tree-lined walks connecting squares, neighborhood recreation centers, community and city-wide recreation parks, and the civic center

Tree-lined boulevards and parkways linking larger parks

Waterfront developments along ocean, bays, lakes, and rivers.

* Provided by elementary school

** The parking standard proposed assumes joint use of parking areas. Allowance of 300 square feet per automobile.

SOURCE: California Outdoor Recreation Resources Plan, Department of Parks and Recreation, 1974

Government Agencies Providing Recreation

FEDERAL

Certain recreation functions are proposed by the federal government. Principal areas where these will take place are indicated on the General Plan Map of the County, within the boundaries of the National Forest, Yosemite National Park, and the two Wilderness Areas. The U.S. Forest Service proposes a continuing program for the expansion of the camping and other recreational facilities in the Sierra National Forest.

The abandonment of the stewardship of certain Bureau of Land Management lands in Madera County has provided the opportunity to plan their use in some cases for recreational purposes.

A large tract of BLM-controlled land lies along the San Joaquin River, just east and south of Kennedy Table. The General Plan for Madera County expresses the use of these lands for recreational purposes and the upstream extension of the Millerton Lake State Park lands on the San Joaquin River. This is the highest and best use of this very rough, steep, and poorly-vegetated land.

Two new dams are now under construction in the county and their lakes should begin filling next year. The first of these is located behind the Buchanan Dam on the Chowchilla River, in the north central portion of Madera County, approximately 5 miles west of the community of Raymond. This lake will be surrounded by several sections of land to be developed for recreational purposes in conjunction with the lake. Hidden Dam and Hensley Lake on the Fresno River, approximately in the center of Madera County, is a similar project which will be surrounded by developed recreation lands. These facilities will be operated by the Corps of Engineers.

Fully one third of Madera County is already federally-owned, capable of being used for certain recreational purposes. Yosemite National Park occupies a large region in the northeast corner of the county while two wilderness areas occupy large areas of the High Sierras. These are the Minarets Wilderness Area south of Yosemite Park and a small portion of the John Muir Wilderness Area in the southeast corner of the county, near the Devil's Postpile National Monument.

The U.S. Forest Service maintains a large number of recreational areas and campgrounds within the boundaries of the National Forest in the mountain areas. (See inventory of existing recreational facilities in the appendix). Bass Lake provides the foundation for an intensive

recreational use. This lake is within the boundaries of the Sierra National Forest and is operated by Pacific Gas and Electric Company under the jurisdiction of the Federal Power Commission. Several other lakes on the San Joaquin River participate in flood control and irrigation projects along with their power producing function. Recreational facilities have been developed on some of these lakes and more are pending. It is safe to say that any body of water in Madera County has some kind of recreation on it, whether allowed or not.

At the federal level, the U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation has jurisdiction to coordinate programs between and among federal agencies providing recreational opportunities. It is recommended that the U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation take more aggressive action to insure that federal agency programs are complimentary to other existing and proposed recreational facilities.

The programs described on page 29 in the appendix of this report reflect federal involvement in outdoor recreation programs and related environmental efforts. There are eight cabinet-level federal departments, some 53 federal bureaus, and about 35 independent officers, agencies, commissions, committees, and councils involved with outdoor recreation. Each federal agency has different policy objectives and management responsibilities. Programs range from regulatory responsibilities to coordination, information, education, training, research, administration, technical assistance, credit, and grant programs.

About one half of California's 100,000,000 acres consists of public lands that are under the administration of federal agencies. Within Madera County, approximately 485,000 acres are under the ownership and control of the federal government.

Information contained in the appendix of this report contains a summary of major federal grant programs which are available for recreation.

STATE

The administration of recreation programs in California is located within the constituent departments and boards of the Resources Agency. This agency is directed by the Secretary for Resources, a member of the Governor's cabinet, who directs interagency planning and prepares state positions on resource issues.

The Department of Parks and Recreation is one of the two principal state departments concerned with recreation in California. The department's responsibility includes major roles as planner, coordinator, and supplier of recreational opportunities throughout the state. Primary efforts of the department are focused on planning, design, development, and operation of the various units that compose the State Park System.

Major funding sources include the State General Fund, the Bagley Conservation Fund, the 1970 Recreation, Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Bond Act, and the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The Madera County portion of Millerton Lake State Park, behind Friant Dam on the San Joaquin River, is the only state park facility located within the County. The Statewide Trails Plan proposes a Pacific Crest Trail which passes through eastern Madera County along the alignment of the existing John Muir Trail.

LOCAL

In 1960, cities and counties attempted to establish uniform guidelines with respect to their roles in the park and recreation field. These new guidelines replaced earlier efforts by local agencies to establish their own policies and objectives. In 1961 the League of California Cities and the County Supervisors Association of California set forth policies and guidelines affecting city and county responsibilities. Departures from these guidelines are primarily due to special circumstances of population, density, and geographic location. The provision of neighborhood and community parks is a city responsibility. However, in some counties with large suburban populations, the county government is providing these areas. The provision of regional parks is recognized as a county responsibility; however, some California cities are so large that the provision of regional parks falls naturally to the city recreational agency. None of California's 58 counties currently meet the standard of 10 acres of local parks and 10 acres of regional parks per thousand population. It will require many years of combined efforts by federal, state, and local government to establish a sufficient amount of parklands in California.

Many local parks tend to take on regional significance since they are used by residents outside the supporting tax base area. There remains a continuing interest in the traditional recreation programs; softball, basketball, handball, tennis, and other similar outdoor sports, particularly in lighted areas that can be used during the summer evenings. There is also a renewed interest in such diversified activities as community theatres, art shows, and bicycling. Many local agencies are also providing more programs for senior citizens, the retarded, and the physically handicapped.

Funding and associated money problems appear to be a critical concern in all recreation agencies and at all levels of government within Madera County. Some factors which can contribute to these problems are listed below:

1. Areas growing faster than the ability to acquire and develop recreation areas.
2. Present facilities below standard and insufficient funds to expand and rehabilitate these areas or acquire new areas.

3. Demand for recreation opportunities is increasing, including demand by residents outside the supporting tax base area. Many suburban-type areas resist incorporation but use city recreation facilities.
4. Local agencies have been forced to divert funds to provide other opportunities which have not traditionally been considered a part of local agency responsibility.
5. Cutbacks in state and federal programs put a greater burden on the fiscal capability of local agencies to provide recreation facilities and programs.
6. Costs of acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance are rising rapidly. This is a primary concern in local government.

Within Madera County there appears to be a deficiency in recreational opportunities close to home, particularly in the smaller communities and rural sections. At the present time, approximately 1400 acres of land under city or county control are devoted to recreation. People who live in deficient areas seek recreation opportunities in areas which are more adequately served. As a result, many parks designed to receive use by a single community or area of the community are subject to regional use.

County government is responsible for resources that have natural, historic, recreational, or cultural importance to the residents of a county and that are outside of a city or district's jurisdiction. Counties have the responsibility to develop plans for parks, recreation, and other open space as an element of the County General Plan. Counties also have the responsibility to assist local agencies through planning, consultation, and other services in providing neighborhood and community recreation facilities in unincorporated areas that have taken on the character of cities and to assist local agencies in determining the needs of the unserved areas. There is also a responsibility at the county level to coordinate with federal, state, regional, and local agencies in their planning process to insure full integration of recreation or open space proposals with other programs within the county. As a supplier, the county has the responsibility to provide regional county recreational facilities and services intended primarily for use by residents of the county. These should also be designed to preserve and enhance environmental quality and natural resources as well as historic sites within the county. There should also be provision for the transfer of county parks to the appropriate agency of local government for operation and maintenance when the character of the park becomes that of a neighborhood park and the park no longer meets the intercounty regional needs. The county also has a responsibility to provide needed local neighborhood or municipal facilities and programs where there is no existing unit of local government except the county to provide them.

Providing recreation opportunities for urban inhabitants is still basically a local responsibility; much the same as police and fire protection. It must be considered as an essential municipal service. The following can be considered as county functions.

1. To promote land development between municipal, county, and school districts and to provide more effective public services on an equitable, economic, and efficient basis.
2. To acquire, develop, and operate parks in areas having unique features or attractions, including historic sites, scenic, natural formations, and water resources.
3. To acquire spaces, areas, and water resources in unincorporated areas adjacent to urban areas in anticipation of residential development.
4. To acquire and develop and operate regional parks of county-wide significance.

The following can be considered functions of local communities:

1. To supply open areas on a neighborhood and community scale within walking distance of all residents, as well as for community-wide use to be used for general unsupervised recreation for all age groups.
2. To supply special facilities for cultural recreation when needed and which are not supplied by other agencies such as museums, historical sites, community theatres, zoos, etc.
3. To supply supervised recreation areas and programs for various age groups with emphasis on community or city-wide activities for teen-age or adult groups, as well as senior citizens, with neighborhood programs that vary according to local interests or needs.
4. To supply facilities for specialized sports or activities where such facilities cannot be provided easily by private or commercial agencies because of their space requirements or their limitations. These include golf courses and tennis, handball, or other courts. Many people of the lower economic class will never have an opportunity to enjoy the benefits of open space and recreation areas unless they are provided within walking distance of their homes. For these people, wilderness areas and national parks are not enough and the cities and the county must plan to meet these inadequacies as a part of improving the urban environment.

Recreational Facilities Proposed In The General Plan

Proposals for the following recreational facilities are contained in the existing County General Plan:

1. Snow play area. A snow play area is recommended in the General Plan to be developed near Cold Spring above Bass Lake. This snow play area, similar to the one proposed near Highway 41, just below the entrance to Yosemite National Park, would provide off-road parking and a simple sliding hill for use by children and adults in the wintertime. No elaborate lifts or ski areas are proposed in these locations.
2. Parkways. A parkway is proposed from the San Joaquin River at its junction with the Fresno River and running up the north side of the Fresno River, through the City of Madera via Cleveland Avenue, along the south edge of Lake Madera County Park, and then on up the Fresno River to Hidden Dam. At Hidden Dam, the parkway would cross the Fresno River to the south side of the river and then proceed up the River Road to Road 415, then along Road 415 to Coarsegold and Highway 41. More specific and detailed information about this proposal is contained in the Madera County General Plan document and maps and the Open Space and Conservation Element of the County General Plan.
3. Irrigation lakes. Recreation facilities exist now at Eastman Lake, operated by the City of Chowchilla and at Lake Madera which is filled by surface waters otherwise normally assigned to the Madera Irrigation District. It is proposed to continue development of recreation facilities at Eastman Lake in co-operation with citizens' groups of the City of Chowchilla and the Chowchilla Water District. The facilities at Lake Madera include a recently-constructed moto-cross track. This track has helped in satisfying the needs of many off-road vehicle enthusiasts in the Central Valley.
4. Jackass Rock Camp. Jackass Rock Camp on the Minarets Summit Highway (Mammoth Road) is a specific recreation project now being built by Madera County in conjunction with private contributors. Contributions of work and money have been made by individuals and organizations within the county toward the development of this project and Madera County to date has put more than \$122,653 into the development of the basic facilities of the project. This Recreation Element of the General Plan anticipates and encourages further investment and continued operation of the camp by the county.

MULTIPLE USE

As previously stated, the continued expansion of the multi-use concept of Madera County's agricultural and forestry areas is recommended. The County General Plan proposes that private land owners be encouraged to develop privately sponsored and controlled recreational activities on open lands used for agricultural plantings, grazing, or forestry. Such multiple use of these lands may well be the key to overcoming the increasing impact of rising land taxes as applied to existing agricultural or forestry uses.

Some of the other proposals originally set forth for park development in the County General Plan include the following:

San Joaquin River Gorge Park
 Wayside parks
 Fresno River Strip Park
 Berenda and Ash Creek Parks.

A more detailed description of these proposals is contained in the Madera County General Plan.

NEW PARKS

The County General Plan proposes an entirely new park to occupy several sections of land on Thornberry Mountain, between Teaford Saddle and Highway 41. This land is currently under the control of the U.S. Forest Service.

An entirely new park is also proposed at Little Table, just east of Highway 41, at the southeast corner of the Four Corners Small Area Plan. This area is proposed for either a state or a county park and would include the mesas and tables of that unique geological feature, where rough land and rocky soil constituency preclude use or development for virtually any other conceivable land use. The area has unique characteristics for interesting parks serving this region of the Central Valley.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Small Area General Plans for many communities within the county include proposals for small neighborhood parks. These small parks are often shown in connection with possible sewer plant sites.

A school is the principal center in a small community for recreational activities. Land adjoining the school should be developed into compatible uses. Parks, playgrounds, neighborhood centers, and similar recreationally-oriented projects can very well be established on land adjoining school sites.

There is also a small community park being discussed for the area of Parkwood and a park is now in the process of being developed in the community of Parksdale. This Recreation Element of the General Plan recommends the continued development of local neighborhood parks in these areas as well as in the other communities located throughout the county.

HISTORICAL MUSEUMS

A historical museum is being developed in the old Madera County Courthouse in conjunction with the Historical Society of Madera County.

This Recreation Element endorses the continued use of the old courthouse and park tower on Yosemite Avenue as a county museum.

A historical museum is also being completed as a part of the recent relocation of the old Lyman home on a parcel of property located along Road 427 in Oakhurst. This house has been recently deeded to the County of Madera and will be operated by the Sierra Historical Sites Association.

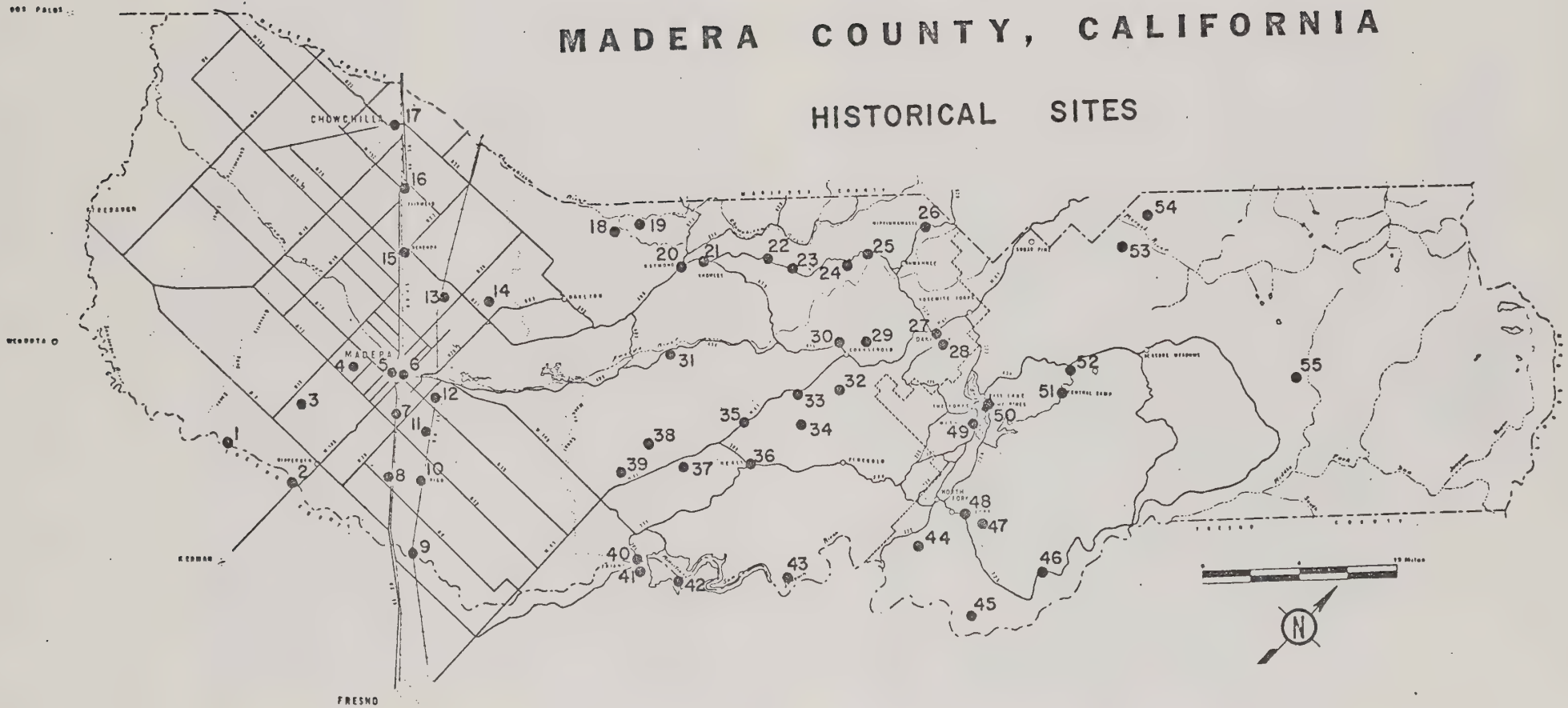
HISTORICAL SITES

The following is a list of historic sites as indicated on the map on the following page:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Gravelly Ford | 30. Texas Flat Mine |
| 2. Skaggs Bridge | 31. Savage Monument |
| 3. La Vina | 32. Waterloo Mine |
| 4. Monte Redondo | 33. Picayune Indian Settlement |
| 5. County Courthouse | 34. Marbo Post Office |
| 6. Madera Post Office | 35. Kelshaw Corners |
| 7. Borden | 36. O'Neals |
| 8. Irrigosa | 37. Zebra Mine |
| 9. Riverview | 38. Bates Station |
| 10. Patterson (Trigo) | 39. Bates Post Office |
| 11. Lankershim | 40. Jones Ferry |
| 12. Storey | 41. Hamptonville (Pollasky) |
| 13. Kismet | 42. Fort Miller |
| 14. Southern Pacific RR
(Berenda-Raymond Spur) | 43. San Joaquin and Henrietta
mine |
| 15. Berenda | 44. Fine Gold Post Office |
| 16. Califa | 45. Center of the State |
| 17. Chowchilla | 46. Hogue Ranch |
| 18. Buchanan Mine | 47. Cascadel |
| 19. Indian Village | 48. North Fork Indian Mission |
| 20. Wildcat Station (Raymond) | 49. Wishon Post Office |
| 21. Knowles | 50. Bass Lake Post Office |
| 22. Miami Post Office | 51. Minarets Post Office |
| 23. Summit House | 52. Madera Flume and Trading
Co. Flume |
| 24. Grubb Gulch | 53. Raymond Mountain Mine |
| 25. Canary House | 54. Yosemite National Park |
| 26. Nipinnawassee | 55. Strawberry Tungsten Mine |
| 27. Fresno Flats Post Office | |
| 28. Lyman House | |
| 29. Todds Mine | |

MADERA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HISTORICAL SITES



Methods of Acquiring Recreation Lands

DEDICATION

The developer of any subdivision or major project in the county where open space is required in accordance with the General Plan or specific plans for that area can offer for dedication such open space areas. These offers of dedication may then be recorded in the County Recorder's office but, like road dedications, not accepted by the County at that time. This has the value to the County of keeping such lands on the County tax rolls. The owner of the property would be afforded the opportunity to use the land in an open space fashion without other restrictions. The dedicated land simply could not be built upon or developed other than in an open space use as the rest of the development is being completed. As the development is completed and the need for the open space becomes more pressing in terms of a recreational area or simply open land for other public purposes, the county could determine at that time to accept the offer of dedication and to make the property public land. Such offers of dedication would probably not be accepted by the future boards of supervisors until a positive impact on surrounding lands would yield a tax benefit to offset the withdrawal of the open space land from the tax rolls. It should be pointed out that the value of open space on adjoining residential property could very well boost the values of these lots enough that a net increase in the tax yield would be experienced by such a procedure.

BONDS

A general obligation bond issue has been one of the best financial tools for implementing acquisition and development programs in local government. State-wide, approximately 26 bond issues for park and recreation purposes have been approved since 1965. During this period, several county and two major state bond issues have also passed. General obligation bond issues are often difficult to sell to supervising authorities and to the general public but they prove to be the most expedient, effective means to acquire recreation or open space lands. A bond issue can provide enough funds for a comprehensive program, as contrasted with the one project at a time approach that so often leads to an unplanned park system.

GENERAL FUNDS

Most local government agencies appropriate park acquisition and development money from their general fund revenues. However, some agencies borrow the cost of the park project from reserve funds and pay half the cost by obtaining a state or federal grant and repay the remaining 50% from general fund revenues. Sales taxes, room taxes, park entrance fees, and park user charges are additional revenue sources that some local jurisdictions have used to fund recreation and open space programs.

OPEN SPACE CONTRACTS

Article 28 of the State Constitution permits a local entity to enter into a contract with owners of agricultural lands. Under these contracts, the owner receives a reduced tax assessment on his land in exchange for keeping the land in open space. Maintaining a viable agricultural economy by protecting agricultural land from conversion to non-agricultural purposes is declared to be in the public interest, but more importantly, open space (breathing space) is achieved. To the urban resident, the scenic variety offered by these agricultural lands and the relief from urbanization provided by farming activities are additional benefits.

SUBDIVISION MAP ACT

Counties may also take advantage of Section 66477 of the Government Code (Subdivision Map Act) which provides for the enactment of an ordinance making it mandatory for subdividers to set aside parklands in new subdivisions or to provide in-lieu funds. Several jurisdictions have enacted ordinances permitting lot assessment fees for park acquisition and development.

Costs of open space and recreational facilities can be partially underwritten by developers through means of a policy requiring dedication of ten percent of the gross land development acreage or ten percent of the value of the raw land, whichever benefits the local recreation plan best. If the developer promises to construct private or public recreation facilities, a contract and bond should be executed between the developer and the county to assure performance.

PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

Private, non-profit organizations can also offer assistance to local agencies in purchasing recreation lands and then holding such lands until the public agency can raise funds for their purchase.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Federal and state grant-in-aid programs can provide assistance in the acquisition of open space. During the past decade, most of the financial burden has fallen on local governments. With the heavy burden now on local governments for all types of public services, state and federal assistance programs must provide an increased portion of the funding needed for open space acquisition.

In the final analysis, often times no single agency has adequate resources to acquire and preserve the entire system of area-wide recreation; but through cooperation and joint funding, an extensive open space/recreation system can be developed and maintained.

Recommendations

1. Recreational facilities should take into consideration not only the acquisition but long-range funding based on a long-range plan for development and management.
2. Modification should be made to state and federal programs so that more funds are allocated to areas used heavily by residents from large metropolitan areas.
3. State and federal agencies should also consider developing additional funding and facilities designed to provide recreational opportunities and open space near large urban areas, thereby reducing the pressure on more distant recreational facilities.
4. Private enterprise should assume the role of major supplier of some types of recreational facilities, such as those for off-road vehicles and facilities for competitive or other types of organization activities, including concession and other related services.
5. Opportunities should be provided for the use of off-road vehicles in areas well suited for such use, where they can be used without undue conflict with existing activities and where they will not cause severe damage to land or vegetation.
6. Consideration should be given to the enactment of ordinances to control the use of off-road vehicles on lands where such use may destroy valuable natural resources or otherwise cause a harmful effect.
7. Transportation facilities should take into consideration recreational opportunities which may be incorporated in plans for such facilities as areas for recreational vehicles, bike paths, recreational trails, etc.
8. Transportation facilities should provide an adequate network of balanced transportation to and within recreational areas.
9. Governmental agencies should acquire access to major waterways with recreational potential.
10. Scenic and open space easements should be provided in major subdivisions which contain wooded areas, flood plains, scenic or historic sites, etc.
11. Additional efforts should be made to provide equal recreational opportunities to the physically and mentally handicapped.
12. Local parks should place special emphasis on the needs of the aged, teen-agers, and low income groups.

13. The county should initiate a study of recreation sites to meet the present and future needs of county residents and visitors from outside the county, with special emphasis on deficiencies in recreation for low-income residents. A detailed program of priorities and methods of financing should be established for each individual facility.

14. There should be close coordination between county government, recreational agencies, and school districts. Emphasis should be placed on the use of public school grounds and buildings for recreation and providing recreational opportunities at a time most convenient for the public, such as during the evenings, weekends, holiday periods, etc.

15. Local, state, and federal agencies should work together to develop a means to provide for appropriate regional funding for parks and recreational facilities of regional significance. The development of campgrounds and other types of major outdoor recreation facilities should be a regional, state, or federal agency responsibility.

16. The State Department of Parks and Recreation and the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation should make additional funding available to compensate local governments for the acquisition and maintenance of open space areas.

17. The County of Madera should establish an inventory of potential sites for recreation facilities.

18. A more detailed study should be made to determine the needs and preferences for design and development of park and recreation facilities in Madera County. A review should also be made of the effectiveness of existing parks and programs in meeting recreational needs.

19. A County Historic Site Committee should be considered, possibly as a part of the County Historical Society, which would include representatives from each community who have an interest in and knowledge of such matters, to inventory historical sites and buildings worthy of preservation. Such a committee could be called upon to advise various agencies and to speak to historic considerations where development proposals are planned.

20. Where various types of recreational uses conflict, some types of uses should be restricted or prohibited and a priority list of such uses should be established. An example of this would be where such uses as boating, swimming, water skiing, and fishing all compete for the same water and may not be able to peacefully co-exist, if concentrations become too great.

21. Citizen input in developing a county-wide recreation program is essential and should be encouraged.

22. The state and federal governments should assume roles as suppliers of recreation which is commensurate with their land ownership in Madera County.

23. A means should be developed to provide for the protection and preservation of recreational areas and open space by means other than through direct acquisition.

24. Each agency in Madera County involved in recreation should provide for a level of use commensurate with the protection and public enjoyment of lands and resources under their administration.

25. County programs should place special emphasis on the acquisition and development of recreation areas used primarily by local communities.

26. All government agencies should encourage the private sector to provide areas, facilities, and services for recreational opportunities where appropriate.

27. Local parks should include large areas as open space for unstructured recreation activities.

28. Where feasible, local parks should provide community centers or multi-purpose buildings to accommodate various types of indoor crafts and athletic activities.

29. Private parties should be encouraged to take an active role in providing wayside camping along major transportation routes.

30. Local recreation centers should be provided with information on the entire park system and other recreational facilities available throughout the area so that this information can be distributed to users of these facilities.

31. Development of floodplains should be limited to recreation and open-space type uses, thereby allowing these areas to serve their natural functions during periods of flooding. In conjunction with this, water courses should be left in their natural state for open space and recreation purposes. Beyond serving the purpose of transporting flood waters, they can provide transport facilities for agricultural water and groundwater recharge.

32. Sand, gravel, and other types of excavations should be planned for ultimate land use before permits are approved. The ultimate use of the land should be determined and the excavation planned in a fashion which would be compatible with that use. Such uses could include recreational water bodies, golf courses, parks, etc.

33. Local parks should encourage improvement and maintenance of their facilities through the use of volunteer labor. A well-planned program of work for volunteer laborers with definite goals and objectives serves not only to solve some of the maintenance problems, but provides an outlet for youthful energies and gives many young people a chance to be productive members of their local society. Proper use of volunteer labor provides several benefits: 1) park maintenance and development projects can be completed without cost, 2) young people can achieve a feeling of contributing to the community, and 3) vandalism can be materially reduced.

34. A priority system should be developed for recreational developments within the county. The county should continue to work toward establishing zoning procedures and land use allocations that will guarantee orderly development and that will allow certain lands to be retained as open space through floodplain, agricultural, or recreational type zoning.

35. The Sierra National Forest should develop policies that will insure resource protection and enhance visitor satisfaction. These measures should not be used as means of evading responsibility and where use is restricted in some areas, other areas should be provided to accommodate displaced users.

36. Urban expansion should be encouraged in sequential growth patterns which will maximize the preservation of natural amenities and the use of existing urban facilities within the county.

37. Neighboring counties should share on a regional basis the responsibilities for providing regional recreational needs in fair proportion to demand from each county.

38. Emphasis should be placed on projects which cannot normally be provided by a private enterprise and projects should be complimentary to each other wherever possible. Each recreational proposal must be weighed according to priorities established on a county-wide basis.

39. Increased citizen participation in the planning, acquisition, and development of recreational facilities should be encouraged.

40. The County of Madera should assume a more active role in the acquisition and development of recreational facilities and the coordination of local recreational activities.

41. A long-range plan of specific projects should be prepared with a schedule for development and funding.

42. Priority should be given to the development and improvement of existing recreation facilities such as adding lights to existing outdoor facilities to provide for use after dark.

43. In the mountain area, emphasis should be placed on developing urban-type recreation facilities such as playgrounds, ball fields, tennis courts, etc. The tennis court at Bass Lake school is the only one currently available for public use in the mountain area.

APPENDIX

MAJOR FEDERAL AID PROGRAMS UTILIZED FOR PARKS AND RECREATION¹

<u>Program Title and Authorizing Legislation</u>	<u>Administering Agency</u>	<u>Program Description</u>
Land and Water Conservation Fund Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965	Bureau of Outdoor Recreation Department of the Interior	Grants are made to States, and through them to local governments, for planning, acquisition, and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Grants are made to finance 50 percent of allowable project costs.
Neighborhood Facilities Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965	Office of Urban Neighbor- hood Services, Department of Housing and Urban De- velopment	Grants are made to local governments to help finance neighborhood or community centers provid- ing a variety of social services. Grants may cover up to two-thirds of project costs or up to three-fourths in redevelopment areas.
Community Action Programs Economic Opportunity Act of 1964	Office of Economic Opportunity	Through the Community Action Programs grants are made for public or private nonprofit anti-poverty projects. Outdoor recreation projects are in- cluded as eligible programs. Grants cover 50 percent of program costs.
Model Neighborhoods Demonstra- tion Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966	Model Cities Administration, Dept. of Housing and Urban Development	Grants are made to local governments to plan, develop, and carry out comprehensive programs for rebuilding or restoring slum and blighted areas through coordinated use of all available Federal programs, and up to 80 percent of non-Federal contributions required under Federally-assisted projects.
Open Space Land Housing Act of 1961	Office of Urban Neighborhood Services, Department of Hous- ing and Urban Development	Grants are made to state and local governments for the acquisition of land for permanent open space use. Basic improvements on the land also qualify for grants. Matching funds are avail- able for both acquisition and improvements.
Urban Beautification Housing Act of 1961	Office of Urban Neighbor- hood Services, Department of Housing and Urban Development.	Grants up to 50 percent are made to state and local governments to help beautify publicly owned land in accordance with an overall beautification program.

Federal Surplus Real
Property

Property Management and Dis-
posal Service, General
Services Administration

Surplus land, buildings, and other real property no longer required for Federal use may be transferred to state or local governments for park and recreation uses at 100 percent of the fair market value. The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation assists in determining if property is suitable and desirable for public park or recreation area use.

Beach Erosion Control
River and Harbor Act of
1962

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
Department of Defense

The purpose of this program is to provide beach restoration and shore protection of coastal areas. Federal assistance is available to state and local governments for up to 50 percent of the construction cost for protecting publicly-owned or used beaches, and up to 70 percent for protecting publicly-owned shore parks or conservation areas.

1. Tulare County Environmental Resources Management Element, Open Space. Recreation, Conservation.
June 1972

SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST

The Sierra National Forest, a part of which lies within Madera County, maintains the following campground/picnic sites:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Camping Units</u>	<u>Picnic Units</u>	<u>Location T/R</u>
Big Sandy	14		5/22
Bowler (group)	150 persons		5/24
Chilkoot	12		6/22
China Bar	6		6/24
Clover Meadow	7		5/25
Denver Church	38		7/22
Fish Creek	6		8/24
Forks	35		7/22
Fresno Dome	9		5/22
Gaggs	9		6/23
Granite Creek	14		4/25
Greys Mountain	8		6/22
Kelty Meadow	10		6/22
Lakeside		15	7/22
Little Jackass	4		6/24
Little Sandy	8		5/22
Lower Chiquito	7		6/24
Lupine	50		7/22
Mammoth Pool	47		7/24
McCreary Meadow	4		5/25
Mile High		4	7/24
Mt. Raymond	3		5/22
Nelder Grove	10		6/22
Pine Point		17	7/22
Pine Slope	17	10	7/22
Placer	7		6/24
Recreation Point	135 persons	300 persons	7/22
Rock Creek	19		7/24
Rocky Point		16	7/22
Sierra Beauty		2	6/22
Soda Springs	16		6/24
Soquel	14		6/22
Spring Cove	68		7/22
Sweetwater	10		6/24
Texas Flat	105 persons		6/22
The Falls		20	7/22
Upper Chiquito	20		5/23
Vista Point		4	7/24
Whiskers	3		7/23
Whiskey Falls	5		7/23
Windy Point		8	7/24
Wishon Point	72		7/22

No new areas are currently contemplated for development. However, making the area between Bass Lake and Road 222 a day-use only area is now being discussed. Also, as a condition of the renewal of the P.G. and E. license and the Southern California Edison license for the operation of Kerckhoff and Redinger Dams respectively, a campground at each lake will be required.

COMMUNITY CENTERS

The Millview community center, operated by the City of Madera, is the newest and largest community center developed in the County thus far. This facility provides areas for numerous indoor and outdoor activities.

There are a number of community centers being developed for multi-purpose use in the unincorporated area of the county. These include the Oakhurst Community Center which has expanded over the past few years to include both indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities.

A community center also exists in Coarsegold which provides for indoor activities of that community.

North Fork is in the process of developing the former gymnasium at the school into a community facility.

The centers which have been developed outside of incorporated communities have been made possible primarily through donations and volunteer efforts of the residents of the communities involved. This Recreation Element endorses the continued development of these facilities and new centers in other areas of the County.

PLATE 2 (Madera County)

The following is a list of those outdoor recreational facilities located in the County of Madera as shown on Plate 1.

- 1) NAME: Alview School
LOCATION: 20513 Road 4
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
2 basketball courts
1 softball diamond

- 2) NAME: Dairyland School
LOCATION: 12861 Avenue 18½
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
3 basketball courts
2 softball diamonds

- 3) NAME: Eastman Lake Recreational Park
LOCATION: Berenda Slough at Avenue 26
CLASSIFICATION: County Park
FACILITIES: Picnic area
Fishing
Horseshoe pits
Softball diamond

- 4) NAME: Fairmead School
LOCATION: 19421 Avenue 22 3/4
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
Baseball diamond
4 basketball courts

- 5) NAME: Dixieland School
LOCATION: 18440 Road 19
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
2 basketball courts/volleyball
3 baseball diamonds

- 6) NAME: Howard School
LOCATION: 13878 Road 21½
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
4 basketball courts
3 volleyball courts
4 baseball diamonds

- 7) NAME: LaVina School
LOCATION: 8594 Road 23
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
4 basketball/volleyball courts
6 baseball diamonds

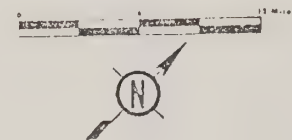
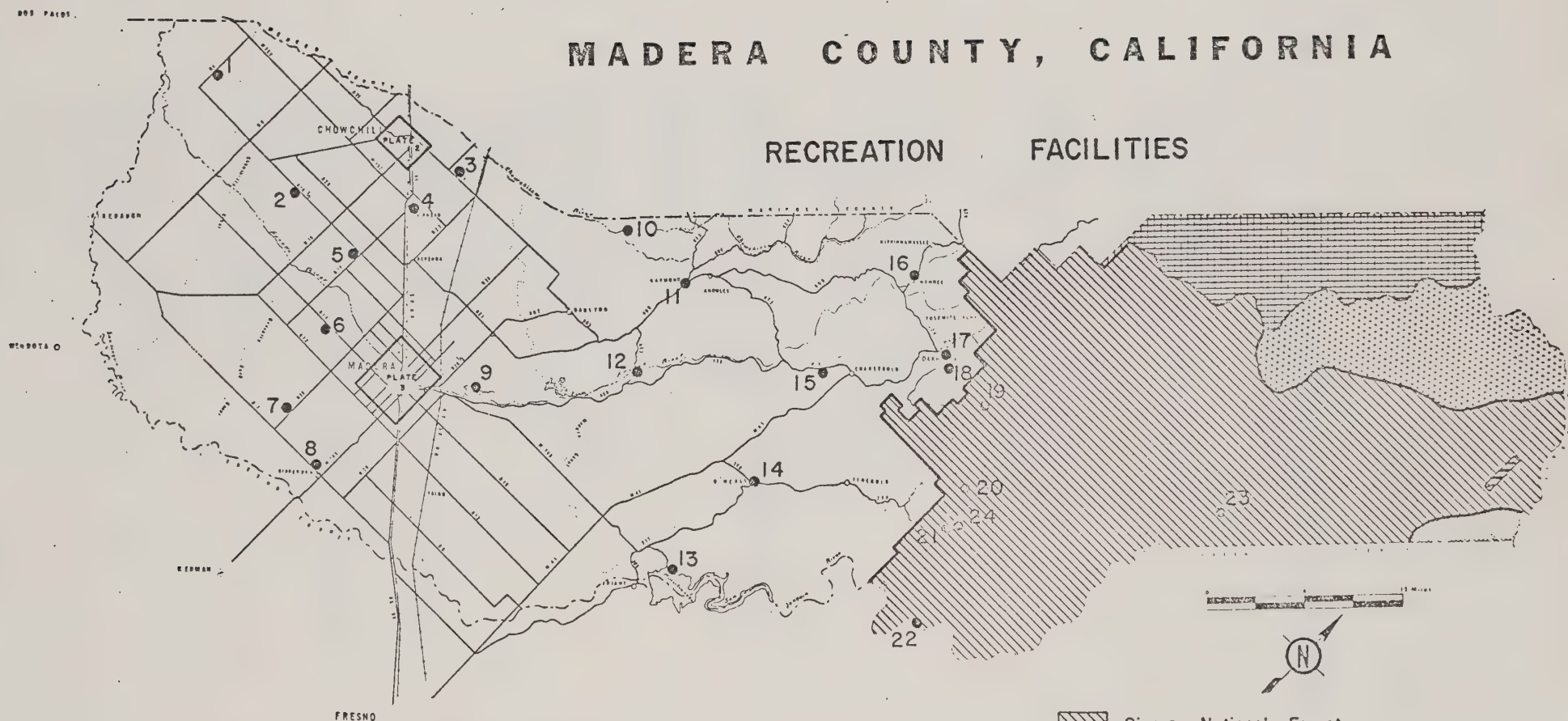
- 8) NAME: Ripperdan School
 LOCATION: 26133 Avenue 7
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 4 basketball/volleyball courts
 4 baseball diamonds
- 9) NAME: Lake Madera
 LOCATION: Road 30½, north of the Fresno River
 CLASSIFICATION: County Park
 FACILITIES: Racetrack (motorcycles and off-road vehicles)
 Fishing
- 10) NAME: Eastman Lake (under construction)
 LOCATION: Road 607 at Chowchilla River
 CLASSIFICATION: Federal project
 FACILITIES: Proposed boat ramp
 picnic facilities
 campground
 fishing
 boating
- 11) NAME: Raymond-Knowles School
 LOCATION: Road 600, Raymond
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 Basketball court
 Volleyball court
 Baseball diamond
- 12) NAME: Hensley Lake (under construction)
 LOCATION: Road 407 at the Fresno River
 CLASSIFICATION: Federal project
 FACILITIES: Proposed boat ramp
 picnic facilities
 campground
 fishing
 boating
- 13) NAME: Millerton Lake State Recreational Area
 LOCATION: Road 145 at San Joaquin River
 CLASSIFICATION: State Recreational Area
 FACILITIES: Boat ramp
 Picnic facilities
 Campground
 Fishing
 Boating
- 14) NAME: Spring Valley School
 LOCATION: 46654 Road 200
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 2 baseball diamonds
 2 basketball/volleyball courts

- 15) NAME: Coarsegold School
 LOCATION: 45052 Road 415
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 Basketball/Volleyball court
 2 baseball diamonds
- 16) NAME: Wasuma School
 LOCATION: Highway 49, Ahwahnee
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 2 basketball/volleyball courts
 1 baseball diamond
- 17) NAME: Oakhurst School
 LOCATION: 49495 Road 427
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 Basketball/volleyball court
 2 baseball diamonds
- 18) NAME: Yosemite Union High School (under construction)
 LOCATION: Road 427, Oakhurst
 CLASSIFICATION: High School Sports Complex
 FACILITIES: Initially a gym and football field
 Plan to eventually have a track
 4-6 basketball courts
 6 tennis courts
 1 baseball diamond
 2 softball diamonds
 swimming pool
- 19) NAME: Bass Lake School
 LOCATION: Road 432 and Road 433, Bass Lake
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 Tennis court
 2 basketball courts
 Volleyball court
 2 handball courts
 This year, a track, baseball diamond, and softball diamond are to be built.
- 20) NAME: Manzanita Lake
 LOCATION: Road 222 and Road 226
 CLASSIFICATION: P.G. & E.
 FACILITIES: Fishing
 Picnic facilities

- 21) NAME: North Fork School
LOCATION: Road 274 and Road 225, North Fork
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
2 baseball diamonds
- 22) NAME: Redinger Lake
LOCATION: Road 225 and the San Joaquin River
CLASSIFICATION: Southern Edison Lake
FACILITIES: Boat ramp
Fishing
- 23) NAME: Jackass Rock
LOCATION: Forest Highway 100
CLASSIFICATION: Semi-public
FACILITIES: Fishing
Hiking
Camping
Tent cabins
Dormitories
Cafeteria
- 24) NAME: North Fork Memorial Park
LOCATION: On South Fork of Willow Creek, north of
Road 225
CLASSIFICATION: Community Park
FACILITIES: Picnic facilities
Swimming
Baseball diamond
Playground

MADERA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

RECREATION FACILITIES








-  Sierra National Forest
-  Yosemite National Park
-  Minarets Wilderness Area
-  John Muir Wilderness Area
-  Devils Postpile National Monument

PLATE 3 (Chowchilla)

The following is a list of those outdoor recreational facilities located in the city of Chowchilla as shown on Plate 2.

- 1) NAME: Fuller School
LOCATION: 1101 Monterey Avenue
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
4 basketball courts
- 2) NAME: Stephens School
LOCATION: 355 North Fifth Street
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
- 3) NAME: Wilson Junior High School
LOCATION: 1109 W. Robertson Blvd.
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: 5 basketball courts
2 softball diamonds
- 4) NAME: City Park
LOCATION: Between Robertson Blvd. and Kings Avenue
and 6th and 7th Streets
CLASSIFICATION: City Park
FACILITIES: Playground equipment
Picnic tables.
- 5) NAME: Chowchilla Union High School
LOCATION: 901 Humbolt Avenue
CLASSIFICATION: High School Sports Complex
FACILITIES: Football field
8 tennis courts
2 baseball diamonds
8 handball courts
Track
- 6) NAME: Little League Ball Park
LOCATION: Between 1st and 3rd Streets and Orange and
Trinity Avenues
CLASSIFICATION: City Baseball Park
FACILITIES: 2 baseball diamonds
2 softball diamonds
- 7) NAME: Chowchilla Fairgrounds
LOCATION: Road 16 and Avenue 25
CLASSIFICATION: State Fairgrounds
FACILITIES: Swimming pool

THE CITY OF CHOWCHILLA

MADERA COUNTY CALIFORNIA

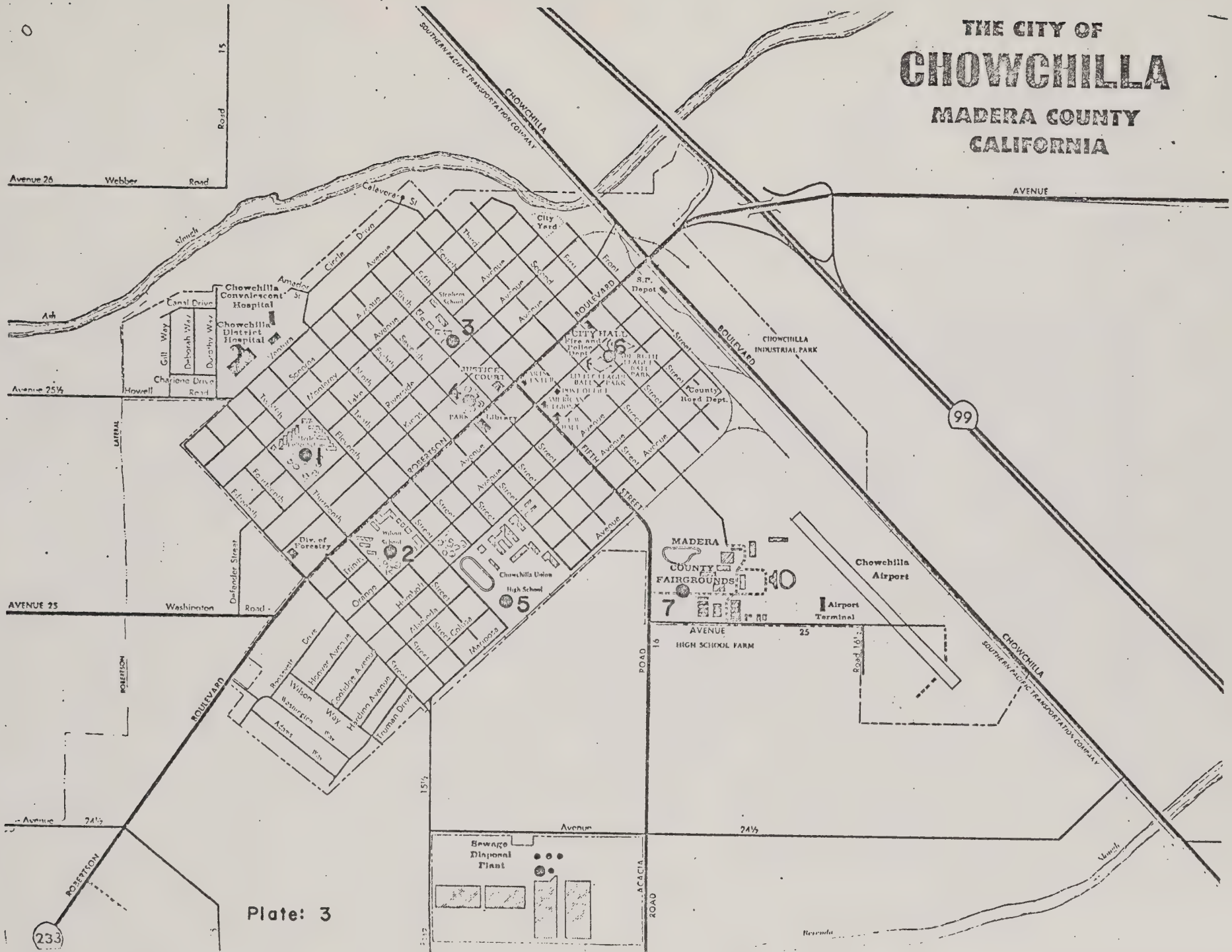


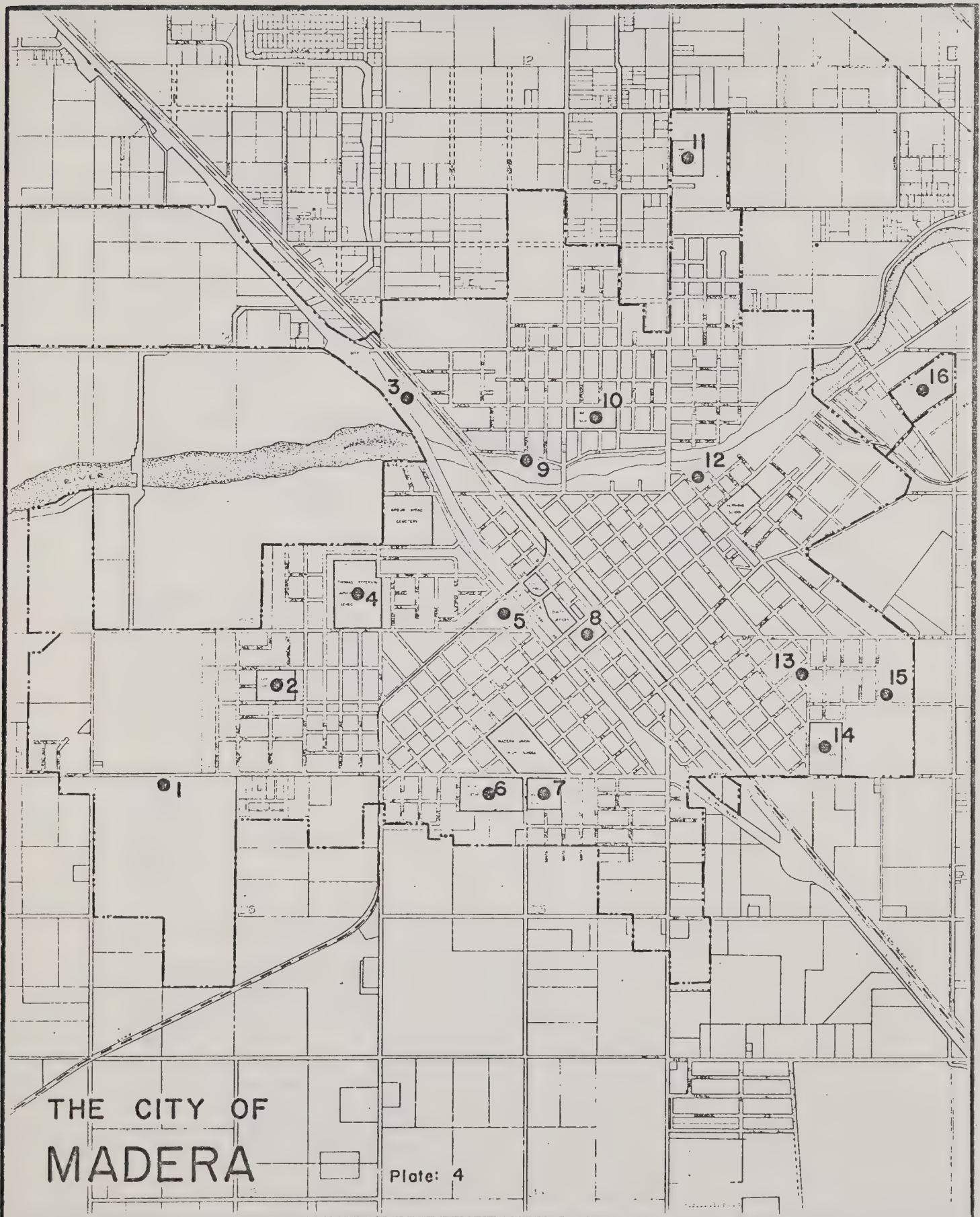
PLATE 4 (Madera City)

The following is a list of those outdoor recreational facilities located in the City of Madera as shown on Plate 4:

- 1) NAME: Town and Country Park
LOCATION: East of Avenue 25 and south of Howard Road
CLASSIFICATION: City Park
FACILITIES: 4 baseball diamonds
Bike trails
Playground
Picnic area
- 2) NAME: John Adams School
LOCATION: 1822 National Avenue
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
2 baseball diamonds
2 basketball courts
Soccer field
- 3) NAME: Rotary Park
LOCATION: Between Highway 99 and Gateway Drive and Avenue 15½ and the Fresno River
CLASSIFICATION: City Park
FACILITIES: Playground
Picnic facilities
Shade and grass area
Baseball diamond
Soccer field
- 4) NAME: Thomas Jefferson Jr. High School
LOCATION: 1407 Sunset Avenue
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School
FACILITIES: 9 basketball courts
6 handball courts
4 tennis courts
2 baseball diamonds
Track
- 5) NAME: St. Joachim School
LOCATION: 400 West 4th Street
CLASSIFICATION: Parochial School
FACILITIES: Playground
Baseball diamond
Basketball court
Volleyball court

- 6) NAME: Madera Union High School
 LOCATION: 200 South L Street
 CLASSIFICATION: High School Sports Complex
 FACILITIES: 2 baseball diamonds
 Football field
 Track
 8 tennis courts
 6 basketball/volleyball courts
 4 grass volleyball courts
 swimming pool
- 7) NAME: James Madison School
 LOCATION: 109 Stadium Road
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 3 baseball diamonds
 4 basketball courts
- 8) NAME: County Courthouse Park
 LOCATION: Between Yosemite Avenue and 6th Street and
 Gateway Drive and Highway 99
 CLASSIFICATION: County Park
 FACILITIES: Shade and grass
- 9) NAME: Riverside Leisure Area
 LOCATION: Between Riverside Drive and the Fresno River
 and between Torres Way and Lake Street
 CLASSIFICATION: City Park
 FACILITIES: Shade and grass
- 10) NAME: Washington School
 LOCATION: 509 South Street
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 Basketball Court
 3 baseball diamonds
 Soccer field
- 11) NAME: James Monroe School
 LOCATION: 1819 North Lake Street
 CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
 FACILITIES: Playground
 3 basketball courts
 6 volleyball courts
 Baseball diamond
- 12) NAME: Swimming Pool Park
 LOCATION: Between Flume and High Streets and between
 5th Street and the Fresno River
 CLASSIFICATION: City Park
 FACILITIES: Swimming pool
 Playground
 Picnic area
 2 tennis courts

- 13) NAME: McNally Park
LOCATION: Between Lake and A Streets and between 12th and 13th Streets
CLASSIFICATION: City Park
Facilities: Playground
Grass area
- 14) NAME: Sierra Vista School
LOCATION: 917 East Olive Avenue
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground
FACILITIES: Playground
2 basketball courts
4 baseball diamonds
- 15) NAME: Knox Park
LOCATION: Northwest corner of Knox and A Streets
CLASSIFICATION: City Park
FACILITIES: Playground
Grass area
- 16) NAME: Millview School and Park
LOCATION: 1609 Clinton Avenue
CLASSIFICATION: Elementary School Playground and Community Center
FACILITIES: Playground
3 basketball courts
2 baseball diamonds
Picnic area



PRIORITY LIST FOR RECREATION BOND MONIES

MADERA COUNTY \$54,000

Courthouse Museum
 Parksdale Park
 Jackass Rock Camp
 Parkwood Park
 Oakhurst Community Center
 "Marge Lyman" Home
 Lions Town and Country Park

CITY OF MADERA \$40,000

Lions Town and Country Park

CITY OF CHOWCHILLA \$15,000

Eastman Lake Recreation Park
 Recreation Park, 10 acres land acquisition
 Recreation Park, develop ball park, tennis
 courts, parking, etc.
 Bandstand facilities at city park

CHOWCHILLA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT \$50,000

Swimming pool
 Rework existing tennis courts
 Lighting for tennis courts
 Rebuild existing swim pool
 Refurbish playground facilities

NORTH FORK UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tennis courts
 Turf for yard
 Track
 Softball facilities
 Picnic area
 Swimming pool

RAYMOND-KNOWLES UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT \$10,000

Complete restrooms, drinking facilities,
 and scorekeeper's stand
 Bleachers for baseball, football, soccer and
 track
 Fence boundaries of athletic field
 Outdoor basketball court
 Small children's play area
 Improve parking facilities
 Grade and pave access roads

COARSEGOLD UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

\$5,000

Land acquisition adjacent to school
Improve existing site by leveling land
Improve parking facilities
Provide playground lighting
Increase basketball facilities
Provide lawn and sprinkler system

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OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MADERA COUNTY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Madera, California. November 18, 1975. 8AM

Board Meets Pursuant to Ordinance No. 334.

Present: Supervisors Schmitz, Ginsburg, Del Bianco, Hill, and Cornwell.

Absent: None.

MO 75-1812. In the Matter of HEARING ON RECREATION DRAFT PLAN.

This being the time and date set by the Board of Supervisors to hold a Public Hearing to review the proposed Recreation Plan of Madera County, the Chairman opens the hearing. After discussion, the Chairman closes the hearing. On motion made by Supervisor Cornwell, seconded by Supervisor Del Bianco, unanimously carried, it is ordered to adopt the Madera County Recreation Plan.

Attest: EVELYN C. BRANSTETTER

Clerk
- - - -

BILL HILL

Chairman

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct excerpt from the original on file in the office.

Attest: November 19, 1975

EVELYN C. BRANSTETTER

County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in and for the County of Madera, State of California.

BY

Nanda Bradley Deputy
f

U.C. BERKELEY LIBRARIES



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